



Resolution

Whereas, the Honorable Richard A. Cowen served with distinction for 20 years as Secretary/Commissioner with the Board of Election Commissioners for the City of Chicago from 1995 until his recent passing;

Whereas, Richard served prior to that for 15 years as a member, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Illinois State Board of Elections;

Whereas, Richard's service with both Election Boards was marked by deciding issues based on the needs of the voters and fidelity to the law, and never partisan politics;

Whereas, Richard championed the use of new technology and services for voters, which led him to urge and take pride in Chicago being the first election authority in Illinois to offer services like online voter registration and, more recently, providing electronic poll books in every precinct;

Whereas, Richard always served the voters and the Election Board with unflinching integrity, an inquisitive mind, a warm sense of humor, and an infectious laugh;

Whereas, Richard served also with the Republican Party and as an attorney to represent local Electoral Boards and candidates seeking office in the North and Northwest Suburbs, as well as for decades advising Cook County Township Officials;

Whereas, Richard was an accomplished litigator, most recently as a leader at the Stahl Cowen law firm, where he was recognized for deftly handling complex commercial cases;

Whereas, Richard leaves behind a beloved wife Nadia and the children he so loved, Lisa, Susan Scott and Steve, as well as his eleven grandchildren and one great grandchild;

Now be it resolved, that the Commissioners and Employees of the Board of Election Commissioners for the City of Chicago join the many extending heartfelt condolences while celebrating and honoring a life lived well.

Be it further resolved, that this resolution shall be part of the official record of the Board of Election Commissioners for the City of Chicago and that a copy be presented to Nadia Cowen.

Adopted by the Board of Election Commissioners for the City of Chicago this Nineteenth Day of May, 2015 A.D.

Langdon D. Neal
Chairman

Marisel A. Hernández
Commissioner

Lance Gough
Executive Director